VOX POP

10.02.2005 ISSUE 10

9th Anniv.: Mars Hill Staff Reflects – p. 3
Acts 29 Responds to Katrina – p. 11
Why we're watching *The Exorcist* – p. 12

Fall at Mars Hill

new season, new sermon series, new classes

VOX POP

MARS HILL CHURCH

meaning
beauty
truth
community

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mars Hill News
Letters to Vox Pop 2
Mars Hill: Year IX 3-6
Unpopular Culture 7
Proxy 7

People
Joel Braun 8
Pastor Bubba Jennings 9

Awareness
Stepping Out on Faith 10
God and the Storm 11

Culture
An Exercise in Exorcism 12

Expression
"Wedding Dress" 14

Bodylife
Vintage Saints: John Calvin 15
Capstone 16
Community Groups 17
Financial Update 18
Announcements 19
Calendar 20

Welcome to Mars Hill Church

To those who are new, welcome to Mars Hill; if you are a guest at one of our Sunday services, we'd love to know you better. Please take the time to fill out an information card, available in your seat or at the information desk. Drop it in the offering basket during service – if it's your first time, a little info about who you are is your offering to us – or slip it into one of the triangular information kiosks in the foyer.

Stop by any Information Desk after any service or talk with a Connect Team member for a casual introduction to our church community. For more information, sermons, essays and more visit our website at www.marshillchurch.org. If you have additional questions, please email **life@marshillchurch.org.**

What is Vox Pop?

Vox Pop, "voice of the people," is Mars Hill Church's monthly newspaper. As the 1st century Christian church grew at a supernatural rate, the written word became vital in maintaining communication and community among believers. Not only did the letters of Paul play a huge role in this process, they're in your Bible. Vox Pop is not your Bible. As Mars Hill continues to grow, however, our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will use our imperfect words to foster love between you and me and Him.

Letters to Vox Pop

Write to us! Send comments, rants, ideas to voxpop@marshillchurch.org

Changed in Europe

I am very sorry for my writing. I am Dutch So...
For a few years I follow you. I live near the coast in Holland and when I have time, or when I am not going to my own sermon I am walking on the beach listening to one of the preachings of Mark D. I am a Bible teacher but since I listen to the preaching my complete view on the Bible is changing. Know that the influence of you is also in Europe.

God's blessings and many love,

– Ruud

From Golden Gardens to Africa

Big thanks for the encouraging testimony in the Golden Gardens dunking article recently! ["One Man's Story," August] Though I was there at the beach that night to witness, it impacted me even more to read about that brother's personal journey. Thank you for more compelling content! I say "compelling" because another VoxPop article (about Uganda) a few months back was instrumental in my going to East African on a medical missions trip last month. Keep up His good work!

Peace to you,

– John deJesus

Editor's note: a booklet of testimonies written by people who got baptized at the Golden Gardens event is available at the info desk. Pick up a free copy (while they last) for more encouraging stories about the amazing, beautiful, transformational power of Jesus.

New Podcast Debuts

Editor's note: At the end of September, Mars Hill debuted two new podcasts, Vox Pop Audio magazine and Film & Theology: Night Out. Still in the experimental phase, here's some of the feedback we've received so far. Send comments to voxpop@marshillchurch.org.

Vox Pop Audio rocks! What a great Idea to keep people connected.

Peace,

– Bill

I'm a member at Mars Hill and just discovered the new Vox Pop online audio magazine. I like it! Very cool…

I didn't get to attend the Golden Gardens baptisms, so it was nice to hear some of what was going on. I also appreciated hearing Pastor James' explanation of why we're showing "The Exorcist" for Film and Theology.

– Jonathan Hanneman

MARS HILL NEWS

Mars Hill: Year IX

October has always been an eventful month at Mars Hill. The fall means a new sermon series, an influx of college students, Capstone classes, and the celebration of the church's anniversary.

Vox Pop asked some of the Mars Hill pastors, decons, interns, and volunteers to tell us how and why they first came here.

Though an annual nod to the past is worthwhile, it's important to remember the warning found in Ecclesiastes, "Do not say, 'Why were the old days better than these?' For it is not wise to ask such questions" (Ecc. 6:10). The purpose of recognizing our anniversary is not to pine for the days of a smaller congregation or a former location. We acknowledge where we've come from in order to glorify, thank, and remember the God who has carried us through the years.

Like the memorials of the patriarchs, receive this reminiscence as more than mere nostalgia: these stories are a testament to the faithfulness and goodness of our living God, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Laurelhurst (near University Village) 1998

The Beginning: 1996

***Pastor Gary Shavey**, Capstone Institute, Age 30*

I started going to Mars Hill Church because one of the founding elders, Mike Gunn, led me out of my idolatry as a UW football player and into a relationship with Jesus. At first, Mike took me to Antioch Bible Church because he was helping Mark Driscoll and Lief Moi with the college group over there. Then Mike started telling me that they were going to start a church.

That smelly youth group room near the Zoo, 1996

At first I laughed, Who starts their own church!? I grew up going to a dying church, but because of the close relationship that I had with Mike, I trusted him enough to know that he was not going to bring me to some fake and fluffy church.

I still remember the first days of Mars Hill: we met in some smelly youth group room near the Woodland Park Zoo where the Word was preached and authenticity lived. Eventually, we moved to another room, then another room, then another building. After a while, I had to ask Mike where we'd be meeting each week.

Over the past nine years, the focus was and still is Jesus, but we have matured into a body that pursues Jesus in all areas of life not just contemplation. As we stay on mission, preaching Jesus in all areas of our life, there is no doubt that the ripple effects of transformation will reach the city. Let us not just sit and watch but be active participants in God's redemptive plan. I look forward in seeing where God will bring us.

YEAR I: 1997

***Matt Johnson**, Team Strike Force (guy that makes the beats), Age 33*

I visited Mars Hill a few times in '96, at its first location, Emmanuel Bible Church, across the street from the Woodland Park Zoo. I started regularly attending sometime in mid '97 along with my good friend/roommate Jeff (Suffering) Bettger. Jeff and I had both been in bands, touring extensively and putting out records. We were burned out and the lack of support that the Christian community showed towards its artists was frustrating.

Previous to my attending Mars Hill, I'd been reading some heavy theology and philosophy. But I was learning in isolation and had been out of community for over a year; for theology to be a healthy exercise, it has to be lived practically. In the meantime, I'd gotten quite a chip on my shoulder and was bitter at Christians in general. Mars Hill showed me a great sense of community and once I got over myself, I was relieved to be a part of a Christian family again.

The rest is history. I've been in awe of God's goodness all these years in my own life and in the life of the Mars Hill community in general. I've been serving in the worship department (along with my above-mentioned buddy Jeff) since sometime in '98. I met my lovely wife, Rose, in the worship department shortly after my first few visits to Mars Hill and we were married in 2001.

YEAR II: 1998

***Joel Brown**, Deacon (Sound and Worship Director), Age 25*

When I came to Mars Hill in October 1998, we were studying Romans, I think. Team Strike Force was leading worship and I thought that it sounded like Goo Goo Dolls worship (a lot has changed since then–they got electric guitars, for one). I wanted to stick around because God drew me to Him through the Word being spoken in my language in an honest and straightforward way.

After the service, I walked up to Pastor Mark, gave him a copy of my band's CD, and said I wanted to help lead worship on drums (another thing that's changed!). I was playing a few weeks later. The future Pastor Tim Smith joined the band about a year later, and 6 months after that I started my internship with sound.

First Presbyterian, Downtown, 1999

YEAR III: 1999

***Adam Sinnett**, Acts 29 Assistant Director, Age 27*

I first heard about Mars Hill while attending UW; two fraternity brothers were talking about some young, post-modern church plant with a bearded pastor who spoke on ultimate fighting, Jesus, bullets, and the gospel–oftentimes in the same sentence. I began to attend Mars Hill when it was at the Paradox in the U-district and quickly realized that I would need to get a tattoo, a piercing, and add some black trench coats to my wardrobe, or else stick out like the tall, skinny, white, college frat guy that I was.

Fortunately, it appeared that the church couldn't afford electricity to pay for lighting so they used candles, which allowed me to maintain relative anonymity. Additionally, coming from the land of contemporary Christian worship music, I wasn't accustomed to the onslaught of screeching worship, non-rhyming lyrics and alternative metal accompaniment (honestly, it was bad). I wasn't sure if the band was high on the Spirit or crack, and frequently prayed for Jesus to take them away in a whirlwind like Elijah.

Amidst the melee, however, I heard and saw Jesus, His gospel and His mission, something I hadn't heard or seen elsewhere. I follow Jesus, and I wanted to be where His name was proclaimed and with His people as they carried out His mission. That's why I've been here ever since.

***Jen Latvala**, Pastoral Assistant, Age 25*

My church down in Santa Cruz had a link to "Mars Hill Fellowship" on their website. When I moved to Seattle, at age 19, I was a new Christian excited about living in a new place, starting my first year of college, and reaching out to a new group of hippies and laid-back college-folk for Jesus, I knew that I needed a solid Bible teaching church to go to. That was in 1999.

I remember the first time I walked from the dorms to the Paradox Theater for the 7pm service with my friend Paul (now my amazing husband). I remember we'd take up a row with other friends from U-Dub and the theater seats would noisily swing up every time we'd stand to talk or worship together. I remember a sermon Pastor Mark preached on the heart where he slammed the pulpit down on the stage while preaching about seeing our own depravity and clinging to Jesus to save us from ourselves.

The first time I went to Mars Hill, I asked the band for song sheets after service because I was struck by the song "Post Concussion." I liked the candelabras, didn't like the incense, and have fond memories of crowding the sidewalk in front of the theater after service with people and eating snacks provided by a different member each week. I'd spend time with friends enjoying the last bit of the weekend and then hit the libraries for a late night.

YEAR IV: 2000

***Beth Morris**, Deacon (Acts 29 Network), Age 36*

I came to Mars Hill Church as one of the walking wounded. I had been in large churches all my life. I had volunteered to the point of exhaustion. I had been in leadership and just wanted to be anonymous in a small body. God had other plans. My first visit to Mars Hill Church was in the Earl building. There were 80 people there! Pretty soon there were more services added and it was tough to even get a seat on Sunday. Was I happy to get into the Leary building!

God really healed some of my fears about being involved in a big church again. The more I went to Community Groups and Sunday services, the more I felt at home. I was more at home at Mars Hill Church than I had been in any church I attended previously, where community and relationship weren't valued. I've learned that it's up to me to make sure I am actively cultivating relationships in and out of Mars Hill.
My wonderful husband, Steven, started attending Mars Hill Church in 2003. We were married last April and are very happy to call Mars Hill Church our home.

***AJ Hamilton**, Deacon (Executive Assistant to Pastor Mark), Age 25*

In 2000, my wife Crystal and I were about to celebrate our 1st anniversary. We had lived in Seattle nearly a year and still hadn't found a church to call home. A friend from California came to visit. While he was in town, he planned on checking out this cool church he'd heard of called Mars Hill. Crystal and I decided we'd check it out after our friend visited and told us what he thought. His report came back rather sour, but at this point we were giving any church a chance, and at least someone, somewhere thought this church was cool, even if it wasn't our friend.

So based on a rave review (terrible music, boring preacher), we happily visited Mars Hill. At that time, Mars Hill was meeting in a Presbyterian church on First Hill Downtown. It was a large church, stained glass windows and pews, about 250 people in attendance. Pastor Tim led worship and Pastor Mark preached. The music was incredible, but original–we couldn't sing along at all–and Pastor Mark read an entire chapter of the Bible, preaching for an hour and a half. We had never seen a pastor use so much Scripture in a sermon.

I left that Sunday knowing that not only had my young family found a home, but that I would work in this church. I immediately began serving by tearing down the worship equipment, the easiest job for an able-bodied man to do. During this time of service, I met men who would become the pastors and deacons of this body, men I would soon be working with.

Crystal and I recently celebrated our 6th anniversary and are expecting our third child and first son in January. We believe that God has blessed us through the teaching and leadership of Mars Hill. Not only has God blessed us and our friends, but He has blessed this church considerably.

YEAR V: 2001

***Crystal Griffin**, Assistant to Pastor Mark, Age 22*

In 2001 I moved to Seattle to attend Seattle Pacific University. I was about to give up my church search when I overheard a quasi-debate in my dorm hall. A few of the girls were discussing (rather loudly) Mars Hill and its theology as well as Pastor Mark's preaching style. The consensus seemed to be that even if they disagreed with him, they liked the way he taught the Bible bluntly and practically. I decided that I had to check it out, so I caught a ride as often as I could with the girls who had cars.

The church was in the Earl building in Ballard. I remember being unfamiliar with most of the music but I loved the preaching, which continually challenged me in the most practical ways. There was a small auditorium and as we grew and grew I became quite familiar with the side overflow room, where I had to stretch to see the stage. My husband, Rob, and I attended the Biblical Marriage class in that room.

Not only has the church grown in numbers since then, but also, I believe, in maturity. We have expanded from mostly twenty-somethings to embrace people further on in life and their walks with Jesus. Our children's ministry is taking over the building we have now! I praise God that through all the changes the church has undergone, He has consistently made this a place where so many can learn about Him in a very real way.

YEAR VI: 2002

***Chad Brown**, Deacon (Community Building), Age 30*

My first introduction to Mars Hill was via the website, more than a year before we moved to Seattle. Much about Mars Hill seemed generally interesting, but the MP3s I listened to seemed jarring and even slightly unsettling. At the time, my wife Keisha and I were accustomed to happy-clappy pop praise music, so we didn't visit Mars Hill until we had tried a few other churches in the area.

Finally, we visited and I was surprised to find that the music was even worse than I thought it would be! Overall, I was disappointed until the sermon started: an introduction to the Ephesians series. Both Keisha and I were hooked, as we experienced solid, straight-forward Bible teaching and preaching. The light bulb went off in our minds: we needed good teaching far more than familiar music.

Following the service, we asked an intern named James Harleman (now a Mars Hill pastor) how to get involved, and he referred us to a Community Group. As it turned out, joining that Community Group was the total difference maker in helping us establish our roots in the Seattle area and at Mars Hill. Now, three years later, I can't wrap my mind around how much God has caused us to grow, and how much Mars Hill has become family. I work for the church with a primary focus on Community Groups, Keisha is a veteran band member of The Parsons, and I love all the Mars Hill bands. I think God is laughing at us, but I enjoy the irony as well.

***Claudine Atencio**, Receptionist/Assistant to Pastor James, Age 31*

I started attending Mars Hill back in the Earl Days when you had to sit in the "overflow" section in these really uncomfortable chairs if you showed up late. I remember the fireplace in the "bookstore" and how I was always tempted to pull up a chair and roast some marshmallows but never did for fear of getting kicked out.

I first came to Mars Hill because I was pretty burnt out on the whole "revival church" thing that was going on at my old church and was looking for a place where the Word of God was being taught free of hype and forced emotions. I created a list of churches in Seattle and took a year to visit them. At the end of the year, I had one church left: Mars Hill. Friends kept telling me "Oh you don't want to go there" and "They don't like independent all-black wearing girls like you."

As a last-ditch effort, my best friend attended a service and called me in the middle of the sermon. The phone call went like this: "Hey. It's me. The guy from [the band] 90lb Wuss is here. The pastor just talked about beer. Get here." So…I drove and made it just in time for the end of the sermon and saw all these people from the music community here in Seattle that I had a lot of respect for. Figuring that if they were here then I guess maybe I would fit in. When the service ended and there was no hyper-emotional altar call and no one was prophesying over everyone all over the place, I felt a wave of relief and knew that this was it. This was the church I wanted to be at.

YEAR VII: 2003

***Eric Eberlein**, Mars Hill Event Coordinator, Age 36*

God led me to Mars Hill Church in October of 2003. It started out as a friendship with a believer, which became a stepping stone to a new life. We discussed God and belief systems and the post-modernity of Mars Hill Church. The only thing that made my skin crawl was when Jesus entered the discussion. I did not get the Jesus thing nor did I want to, and I certainly did not need church. I declined many prodding invitations to come check out Mars Hill. But I was intrigued. Heavy-footed, I watched from across the road the magnitude of attendees heading into Mars Hill for worship. Grouped as a new model army, they looked like "normal" people. I wanted community like I was witnessing on any given Sunday at Mars Hill. Finally, broken for God, He gave me the gift of saving grace and I walked through the doors. Now, as part of the Kingdom, I have a new family in Christ. Everyday I am privileged to say that this is where I worship Jesus and now where I work. This is my prayer…that the reputation of Mars Hill Church starting, with the individual to the body at large, remains solid; that we stay grounded in faith and love in Christ, loving our neighbor, community, and city for the glory of God.

Paradox Theatre, University District, 1999

***Katie Payne**, Pastoral Assistant (Worship), Age 26*

In October 2003, Jesus brought me to Seattle. I had recently reconnected with one of my best friends from high

school, who encouraged me to visit Mars Hill. I went, hard heart and all, and was touched in a way I had never been, through the music and artistry which was humbly displayed all around. It was apparent that someone, or a group of people, had taken a long time to make it exceptionally beautiful, almost like a gift for me, a wandering visitor. I had never been so appreciative in a church. I always viewed church as tacky and most certainly out of date, with felt banners made with glue guns hanging in the windows, and cheap posters displaying upcoming events. So when I entered here, and saw that that was not the case, it intrigued me.

I had just graduated from college with a bachelor's degree in music, and thought I knew everything there was to know about good music, art, and culture. This music was different, however, and despite everything in me that thought I did not need church or God, I knew I was supposed to be a part of this beautiful creation that was doing something I had never seen or heard before. These musicians and artists were here to serve, worship and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. That was my first tangible experience with humility and service, which is where God first broke through to me. Jesus opened my eyes and softened my heart by teaching me about service and humility, and he did that through the example that was displayed here.

But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said, "*Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Ephesians 5:13-14*

YEAR VIII: 2004

***Preston McGee**, IT Intern, Age 23*

When I first came to Mars Hill, the church was already considered "mega" with a regular weekly attendance of over 3,000 and a member base of about half that size. I remember seeing the building for the first time and wondering if it was really a church. It wasn't until a friend from college told me to check out the website that I decided to see what this place was all about. I knew after my first visit that this was my church home, so I took the Gospel Class and got plugged into some volunteer positions and a Community Group.

A year later I find myself working at the church as an intern in the technology ministry and more connected to the surrounding community than I ever thought I could be. It's amazing to see how God has worked in my life and the lives of those I come in contact with everyday. I am so happy to hear God's Word preached and see his people have community with one another in an area of the world where that seems to be the exception and not the rule.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14

***Brent Williams**, Business Intern, Age 25*

Not too much has changed since I started attending Mars Hill. We've added the 7:15 service, the Gospel Class is now called Gospel 101/102…oh yeah, and we've doubled in size.

When told there was some church in a warehouse near the water with 1,000 college kids, I pictured an abandoned building on one of the Seattle piers. While Mars Hill didn't quite fit that picture, it was nonetheless very different than any church I'd ever heard of. It was dark and there were candles instead of crosses. In stark contrast to other church experiences, Pastor Mark preached from the Bible; while it might have sounded similar to stuff I had heard in the past, it was the first time I listened. I then made the mistake of asking someone if they needed help with anything, a task which has grown into an internship that literally takes up all of my time–and I love every minute of it. I am glad that God brought me out of a life of failure and folly that I had created and into new life in Jesus through Mars Hill.

YEAR IX: 2005

***Steven Margell**, IT Volunteer, Age 20*

I've been attending Mars Hill for ten months now, but I first heard about it a couple years ago when a few friends invited me to join them. I declined. I had heard weird things about this church, and was apprehensive to get "sucked in." After finally coming to a service and being convicted, I decided to stay for a while.

I've never known the church as the dark, personal, tiny congregation that it once was. To be honest, that setting sounds very appealing to me and I had been seeking such an environment for years. However, I've learned something here. It's not the setting that is important, it's the message. Week after week Pastor Mark steps onstage and preaches from the Bible. The list of churches I've visited is a little too long, and none of them were consistently teaching from His Word. I've found a home at Mars Hill where I can come to discover new facets of God and His love for us.

Earl Street building in North Ballard, 2000

Unpopular Culture

Biblical Roles Seminar debunks primetime lies

By Mark Bergin

We've learned a lot from sitcoms. Little Lisa Simpson proved that children often know better than their parents. Tim "The Tool Man" Taylor personified the modern father–incompetent, doltish, unworthy of respect. The cast of "Friends" delivered a normative field guide to dating–sex first, gossip later.

Now reality television–not to mention reality–confirms the sticking power of such lessons. Kids are sages, fathers are idiots, mothers wear the pants, and singles have all the fun.

God disagrees.

The Bible honors marriage and calls men to lead, women to help, and children to obey. But you won't hear that on "Desperate Housewives."

Concerned that rapid growth has filled the seats of Mars Hill with many people more versed in popular norms than biblical wisdom, the church elders have instituted a new seminar on familial roles. Pastor Lief Moi estimates attendance will top out at roughly 500 for the Biblical Roles Seminar, slated for Oct. 22 in the main auditorium.

Much of the session's teaching will overlap with topics covered at Covenant ministry events. The primary distinction: This seminar is for more than just singles.

"What does it mean to be a father, a mother, a son, a daughter?" Pastor Lief asked rhetorically in outlining the broadened focus. "What does it mean to be created equal yet different?"

That theme of difference–one so vilified in Seattle's culture–will run throughout the seminar. Men are different than women. Children are different than parents. Single is different than married.

The seminar, set to repeat annually each fall, will serve as an effective extension of the Gospel class. Biblical roles are central to Mars Hill doctrine but are not specifically covered in the 8-week introductory new members' track.

Pastor Mark Driscoll will join Pastor Lief in handling the bulk of the teaching. Specific topics will include headship, courtship, biblical sexuality, and creation in the image of God. Pastor Mark expounded such areas of study extensively during his series through the book of Proverbs in 2001 and 2002. Since then, he has revisited those ideas as often as the church's expository preaching schedule allows–not often enough to keep pace with growth, however. This seminar promises to close that teaching gap on an annual basis.

So what does it mean to be the head of a home? In October of 2001, after opening a sermon by directing standing parishioners to a few remaining empty seats in the former Mars Hill building, Pastor Mark told the couple hundred or so attendees, "You have all been lied to."

The truth, according to this counter-cultural sermon, placed the responsibility for a family squarely on the shoulders of the husband and father. "Men are the head. They are in charge, and they dominate," he preached. "Men hate headship, because they hate to be responsible."

What then is the role of a woman or mother? In January of 2002, Pastor Mark told the church he needed "to deconstruct our whole world." He preached that caring for the home "is a noble and high honor" and that "a woman's orientation is homeward."

You won't hear that on Oprah.

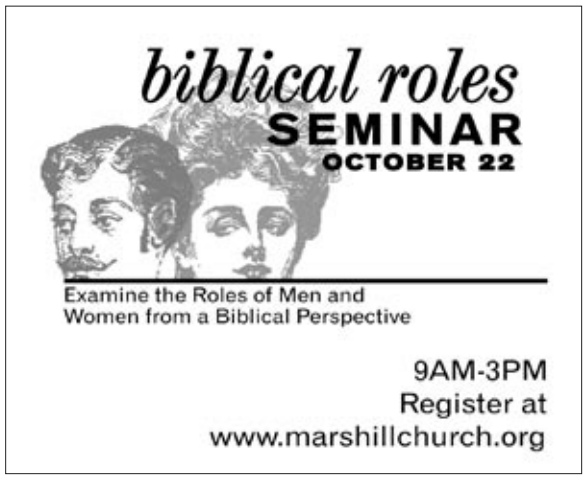
Those involved in Covenant ministry events have long benefited from such teaching, learning to discern desirable qualities while searching for a future spouse. Though singles are welcome and encouraged to attend the Biblical Roles Seminar, the Covenant ministry will continue holding events as well–with one notable alteration.

"We're going to open it up to singles and young marrieds," Pastor Lief said of Covenant. "It's good for singles to have relationships with young married couples to talk about what to expect."

Covenant plans to alternate large meetings every other month with smaller ministry and social outings. Participants will have opportunities for community outreach such as serving food at the Bread of Life Mission, a homeless men's shelter near Pioneer Square downtown. Singles will also be invited to dinners hosted at the homes of involved married couples.

The stated goal of all such activity: to foster men who lead like Jesus, woman who help like the Ghost, and children who aspire to grow up and do the same.

In March of 2002, Pastor Mark sought to clear away some of the cultural fog surrounding marriage. "We live in such a confused age, it's even debated whether people should get married," he preached. "Biblically, here's what marriage is: one man, one woman, one flesh, one lifetime."



Proxy

Mars Hill ministry calls teenagers to own their faith

By Dustin Nickerson, Proxy Intern

Believe it or not, Proxy has been busy this summer.

Preparation for Proxy's second full year, which commences October 5, included the creation of a mission statement and values and formation of a leadership team led by Pastor Bubba Jennings, including Jason and Kelly Cowan (leader support), Roger Friend (junior high), Kevin Mackey (worship), and Dustin Nickerson (intern). Additionally, a new student leadership team was created, a volunteer application process was established, and a website was fashioned.

For those who forgot, or who never knew in the first place, here are the specifics: Proxy meets Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Paradox. It's an opportunity for junior and senior high school students to come together to listen to music, study the Bible, and hang out with leaders and friends. It may sound pretty standard for a youth group, but we like to think otherwise.

At the beginning of each Wednesday, all students remain in one large group and listen to a band play. Sometimes the music is worship, other times different bands come and put on a show. After the music, the junior and senior high students split for various lessons and small group discussions.

Both groups will be studying an apologetics book titled Living Loud, written to help students defend their faith when faced with opposition. What kind of opposition? Well, high schoolers will face Pastor Mark. Along with Pastor Bubba, he'll teach the students who will study the material and prepare to defend and explain their beliefs to Mars Hill's lead pastor. Roger Friend will be covering the same material in Junior Proxy, but in a less confrontational manner.

Like Mars Hill itself, Proxy is something that needs to be checked out personally to be fully understood. As stated earlier, it's not like most youth groups (we don't like to call it a youth group); it's more of training ground where students can come and expect to grow and mature in their faith.

Proxy exists as a ministry of Mars Hill and there are no gatherings on Sundays in order to allow families to worship together. If a student expresses a desire to join a Wednesday night Community Group instead of attending Proxy, leaders are thankful, not disappointed. The goal is to equip teenagers with what they need in order to impact lives in Seattle.

If this sounds interesting or if you have any more questions, feel free to stop by any Wednesday night or contact Proxy by mailing dustinn@marshillchurch.org.

Proxy exists to REACH teens in the greater Seattle area, TEACH them about Jesus, and EQUIP them to HONOR God and LOVE people.

PEOPLE

Little Kids, Big Lessons

From Security to Teacher to Deacon-in-Training—the service of Joel Braun

By Beth Witham

Enthusiastic, prepared, hilarious, and kind. These are just some of the words people use when describing Joel Braun. Joel formerly served as a security guard for Mars Hill. Now the 28-year-old Oregon native is one of the Children's Ministries most beloved teachers. Joel is neither parent nor school teacher so he wasn't sure how to respond when Pastor Dick McKinley asked him to transition from security to teacher.

"I said 'Yeah, I'd be willing to give it a shot, but I've never taught kids before so I don't know how it's gonna turn out!'" Joel recalls. A short time later, Joel realized that the "teaching thing" was something he really enjoyed. As it turned out, he was good at it, too. "I don't know about feeling led or called," it's just something I really wanted to do."

If not for his love of snowboarding, Joel might never have gotten to the place he is today, in faith and service at Mars Hill. About five years ago, Joel went on a retreat with some other Christian guys. Admittedly, he pretty much went for selfish reasons (a chance to snowboard) but returned home deeply changed by an encounter with God.

"During the time of worship," Joel said, "I felt God speak to me and say, 'You do not love Me like you say you love Me.' Through tears and everything else, I re-dedicated my life."

What you'll quickly learn about Joel is that he doesn't do anything halfheartedly. Whether it's his marriage to his wife, Heather, his involvement in the Children's Ministry or his work as a salesman in merchant services, Joel is completely committed. Heather testifies to Joel's intensity and his enthusiastic pursuit of what he wants: he proposed to Heather on their first date! More than four years later, Heather has not only seen Joel grow as a Christian and a leader, but says he has helped her grow in her walk with Christ as well.

"My marriage has given me a better understanding of how much Christ loves me," said Heather. "When your spouse can still love and forgive you, through thick and thin, it exemplifies to me how merciful and caring God is and how much He loves us." It's that care and mercy from God that Joel strives to shower upon his students every week.

Alex Dunn (see June's Vox Pop) has also worked with Joel instructing Mars Hill kids for approximately six months. Alex, a full-time second grade teacher, assists Joel in the classroom on Sundays and helps cover for him when he is away. Alex is yet another person who has been affected by the example of leadership and dedication set by Joel.

"In our opening prayer, before the kids arrive with their parents, Joel always prays, 'Thank you God for these kids.' His heart is always one of service and dedication to the teaching. He serves every week and knows the kids well," said Alex.

"Joel has gained the respect of the kids and they love him," said Pastor Dick. "Because of Joel's ongoing insight into Children's Ministry and desire to make it what God wants it to be, he has now been asked to pursue deaconship."

These two men met when Pastor Dick took over Children's Ministry about two years ago, when Joel was working security. Joel began deaconship training under Pastor Dick's leadership last month and has transitioned into a part-time teaching role to help oversee 5 pm Children's Ministry. Joel's presence enables Pastor Dick and his wife, Tami (also a Children's Ministry deacon), to attend services.

Now that there is one less full-time teacher, Children's Ministry is understaffed. Whether you are a member of Mars Hill or not, there are volunteer positions that desperately need to be filled for Sunday services and the Wednesday evening Jericho Junction program.

"At the rate that Mars Hill's growing, it's hard to keep up," Joel explained.

For Joel, working with the kids has also revealed the unknown strength that he had for teaching. In addition, volunteering in Children's Ministry specifically has helped Joel to be more disciplined reading the Word because he knows his students look to him for wisdom and direction.

"It's actually easier to study and learn the Word when there is a purpose involving others, as opposed to just trying for self-discipline. I now know that I'm responsible for kids. It's more accountability which makes me want to do more," said Joel, who admits he wishes he had read the Bible on his own as a kid.

(continued: SEE 'Joel Braun,' page 13)

Photos by: Jonathan Krombein

A Dedicated Servant Leader

The Story of Pastor Bubba Jennings

By Venus Tan

"It doesn't matter what the tasks are," beams newly established Pastor Bubba Jennings, "but when a bunch of people gather and accomplish something together, I really like it." Getting people together to labor toward common goals and developing leaders for Christ are primary motivators for Bubba.

Installed as Operations Pastor for Mars Hill in July of this year, Bubba did not grow up expecting that he'd ever take on the responsibilities of a church pastor. Though he grew up in the Bible belt (Oklahoma City), his parents were not believers. His early encounters with Christianity included listening to his great-grandmother talk about her beliefs, getting baptized in a horse trough by his pastor grandpa, and visiting random churches while sporting Guns N' Roses t-shirts.

Though Bubba was around people of faith, he did not become a committed Christian until the age of 20. At that point, he was baptized again and started attending church regularly. He married Shelly in 2001, and together they decided to move to Seattle. Once there, they checked out Mars Hill; news of the church had reached them way back in Oklahoma.

When Bubba and Shelly first visited Mars Hill four years ago, they immediately were drawn to the music of the worship band, Team Strike Force. Services were then held at the old Paradox Theatre, located in the University district. (Mars Hill was hosting services in two locations at that time: one in Ballard and one in the U-district.)

After attending the Paradox for only one week, Bubba and Shelly showed up an hour earlier the next Sunday and asked how they could help. Before they knew it, they were cleaning bathrooms and setting up for services. Bubba also took on additional responsibilities by helping run the sound systems and doing promotions for Paradox concerts.

At the time, the Paradox was Seattle's only exclusive all-ages music venue catering to indie-rock, punk, pop, hardcore, hip-hop, and acoustic music. Bubba became a non-staff Promotions Director Deacon and over the course of the following ten months heavily marketed Paradox events. In fact, he requested to volunteer full-time while working his full-time job as a bartender/server and fulfilling his role as a husband.

"It's good to go through a season of testing where you have to really learn your character and limitations," said Pastor Bubba. "It was difficult looking back, but it prepared me to take on the Facilities Manager post later when Mars Hill needed me. I wouldn't have been prepared for it otherwise."

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:1-5

Photos by: L. Bitar

Despite an eager spirit and a strong work ethic, Bubba is careful not to wear himself too thin.

"My priorities are my health and my relationship with God," he affirmed. "If I'm not healthy, I cannot serve God. A natural outpouring of a good connection with God is ministering to your spouse and others."

In 2002, Bubba's position as Promotions Director Deacon ended as Mars Hill closed down the Paradox Theatre and moved all services to Ballard. Though his position was no longer official, Bubba and Team Strike Force bassist, Jeff Bettger, continued to put on all-ages shows at various clubs under the Paradox moniker. Mars Hill later reincorporated the Paradox's programming in late 2003.

At that time, Bubba was hired on as Mars Hill's Facility Manager Deacon. His duties included leading "Breakfast with Bubba," an open-invitation work party that cleaned the church every weekend. (The group has since been renamed "The Breakfast Club" and continues to function in the same capacity each Saturday morning starting at 10 am).

He also directed the Welcome team (greeters, usher, and hospitality team) as well as the Special Events crew. If that wasn't enough, he also helped build the Children's Ministry area, the lounge, and the Paradox section of the church.

About a year later, Bubba was able to transfer some of his responsibilities to Jay Edmark. Jay filled the Facilities Manager position and Bubba assumed the role of Events & Facilities Director. During that time, Bubba believes God spoke to him through particular circumstances that he should pursue the office of pastor. "Several people approached me and asked if I would perform their wedding ceremonies for them," he said. "I explained that only pastors are able to officiate. It was then that thoughts of becoming a pastor crossed my mind." Bubba recalls being both honored and humbled by each experience.

After praying for three months and asking the elders for advice, Bubba decided to nominate himself as an elder candidate, the first step for any Mars Hill pastor. Though the process is arduous and does not guarantee acceptance, he saw it as a natural progression. God continued to lead Bubba as he researched the responsibilities of a pastor.

The next half year of his life was trying. He opened his life to be thoroughly investigated and after seven months, Bubba Jennings emerged as Pastor Bubba and inherited a lot more responsibilities. His role as Operations Pastor includes supervision of the teen ministry, Proxy, all events (Sunday services, special events, conferences, etc), the current building, the new building, the Children's Ministry, Mars Hill Outdoors, and the Paradox.

"The most important thing about serving is actually showing up," Bubba remarked. "People often don't follow through after expressing interest to help." He added that when we are involved, we get to see God work through others and build His church. "We are all His vessels and fortunately for us, He uses us to build. It is a great honor and privilege to be part of that."

(continued: SEE 'Pastor Bubba,' page 13)

AWARENESS

Stepping Out on Faith

'Traveling Guys' begin their 18 month adventure

By Ryan Brett

Travel. At any given time you can find someone who is saving for it, leaving for it, or just getting back from it. Every person has a unique view on what travel is to them–a weekend getaway, a fancy cruise, a road trip across the country. Many use travel to get away from everyday life to live "better" for a brief period of time, to lavish (or deprive) themselves at some far away destination. Others travel to "find" themselves, as if their identity is hiding in another country. All in all, travel can be characterized as inward and self-focused.

Not so for two Mars Hill men, Lee Steffen and Patrick. For these two, there is more to travel than a vacation from reality. It's opportunity. An opportunity to achieve, an opportunity to share, an opportunity to help and show God's love through their works. It's a chance to immerse themselves in other people's ways of life, to see how they live, and to share experiences with them.

They call themselves "The Traveling Guys," and for good reason. Just recently they started a worldwide trip that will cover at least six continents in 18 months. Right now, as you read this, they might be roaming around in South America or they might still be in New Orleans (read on), or they might be someplace else that they haven't even considered, yet. Lee and Patrick definitely feel called to take this trip, but what is more important is what God calls them to do. As Patrick states, "At the end of the day we ask, 'God, show us where you want us to be, where you want us to go.'" The trip bends to God's will.

Funded primarily by their own savings, Lee and Patrick will be traveling around the world with nothing more than backpacks stacked with cooking utensils, limited food, inadequate amounts of clothing, and the sparse electronic trappings it takes to keep their enhanced blog (www.travelingguys.com) updated during their trip.

From Texas to Thailand, from Bali to Bolivia, from Ireland to Israel: these two guys will hit up more than 55 countries serving the people and sharing their experiences. They've already lined up five projects that they will be running with more to come including house rebuilding in Honduras, feeding street orphans in Malaysia, and building a well in Africa.

Just before they were to leave the States, Hurricane Katrina struck. Feeling the calling to help those in need, Patrick and Lee decided to postpone their trip and head down to the Gulf. On September 9, they purchased a few plane tickets and flew down–despite the opinions of bloggers condemning them for adding to the chaos–to help the victims of the Hurricane.

Upon arrival in Houston, Texas, they volunteered with the proper authorities and were assigned to help steer people off buses who needed to receive their FEMA debit cards. In the process they met a man named George who, in three days time, celebrated a birthday with his wife and family, witnessed the death of his wife, and lost his home to the flood. Lee was considerably affected by this man and compassionately wrote in his blog, "George's eyes pierced through mine revealing the pain, the hurt and the depth of his loss like an open wound." And then George was whisked off. Who knows if their presence affected George, but the encounter certainly affected Lee and Patrick.

Due to the lack of wi-fi and phones in the devastated area, communication with Patrick and Lee is limited. But Vox Pop had the chance to speak to them while they were staying at a church in New Orleans.

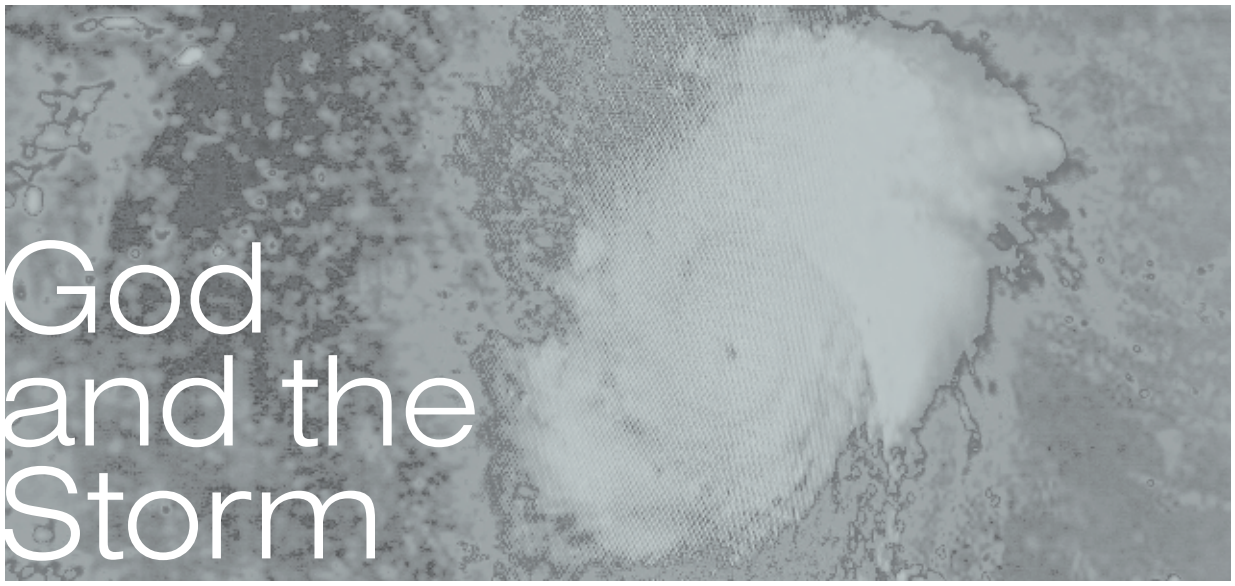
A true sense of compassion and love is evident as these two young men tell about their recent experiences. They have helped drive supplies to unknown locations, run activities at the command center (GRB Convention Center), and distribute donated food and supplies to various places.

Even through the "mind-boggling" devastation and "war-zone" environment, they have kept a level head and continue to seek God for guidance. They say they are completely "sold out to the idea of God leading [their] path. Just throwing a bag on our shoulders and going to where we feel called […] stepping out on faith." As far as what their plans are, with genuine sincerity Lee said, "We don't know. But God does. That's what we've learned."

These are but a few stories from their adventures to the disaster area in New Orleans, the very beginning their experience with benevolent travels. Pray for them; keep track of Lee and Patrick's progress on their award-winning website www.travelingguys.com.

If you get the itch for some traveling, buy a plane ticket and e-mail the Traveling Guys to say that you're coming. Anyone is invited to meet them on their journey and help with their volunteering and mission. Check out the website for contact information and much, much more.

Photos courtesy of travelingguys.com



God and the Storm

Mars Hill and Acts 29 respond to Hurricane Katrina

By Sara Brinton

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, hundreds of thousands of families have been left homeless or with homes that are severely damaged. The situation on the Gulf Coast is grave and reports of devastation are staggering. Millions of people around the world have been moved to ask how they can help.

Here at Mars Hill, we have the opportunity to share God's love with those who are hurting by supporting the Acts 29 churches who are on the ground in Texas and Mississippi. (The Acts 29 Network, with close ties to Mars Hill, plants churches throughout the world. For more, go to www.a29network.org.)

The Journey, located in Jackson, Mississippi, is partnering with a Baptist church to send teams from Acts 29 churches to the Gulf Coast to help with relief. Although the Baptist church was badly damaged in the hurricane, it will serve as a place for teams to eat, sleep, and worship, as well as a central location to coordinate efforts. In addition, these churches are working with non-profit organizations to distribute food, water, diapers, and other supplies to people who are in need.

Kaleo, located near the Astrodome in Houston, Texas, is partnering with local churches to provide housing for hundreds of people who have been displaced by the hurricane. The church is collecting and distributing supplies and helping at shelters and food banks in the area.

All of the other Acts 29 churches in Texas, including **Providence Community Church** in Dallas, **Providence Church** in Frisco, **Ecclesia** in Houston, and the **The Village** in Highland Village, are in the process of coordinating their relief efforts.

How can we in Seattle support our family in Christ and share the love of Christ with those who have been impacted by this disaster?

Pray

In the words of Mark Moore, pastor of Providence Community Church in Dallas: "Pray without ceasing. Let us not forget that we worship the God of heaven who made the sea and the dry land. The proper response to everything in life is worship. This response is not conditional and does not change in the aftermath of disasters. Pray thanking God for his mercy on those who survived. Pray that God would grant repentance to those who scoff at his mercy by looting, raping, and murdering others who have survived. Pray that food, clothing, and shelter would be in abundance. Pray that God would be glorified."

Give

Although we are far away from the Gulf Coast, we have been blessed so that we can be a blessing to those who are in need. If you are able, donate cash or other needed resources to these Acts 29 churches and to other organizations seeking to help and share Jesus in the midst of this disaster.

For other ideas, see "More Ways You Can Help,"

> "I have no doubt that Christ has providentially placed us, standing with the entire Body of Christ here in Houston, in a position to respond."
> *Bill Streger, Pastor of Kaleo Houston*

GULF COAST ACTS 29 CHURCHES

Kaleo
Houston, Texas
www.kaleohouston.com

Ecclesia
Houston, Texas
www.ecclesiahouston.org

The Village Church
Highland Village, Texas
www.thevillagechurch.net

The Journey
Jackson, Mississippi
www.explorethejourney.org

Providence Church
Frisco, Texas
www.insideprovidence.com

Providence Community
Dallas, Texas
www.providencecommunity.com

MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Sew a security blanket for a child

In the 11 days following Hurricane Katrina, Project Linus provided 17,410 new handmade security blankets and quilts to children affected by Hurricane Katrina. As the organization identifies more children in shelters and temporary housing across the country, volunteers are needed to knit, quilt, crochet or sew blankets. For more information, visit www.projectlinus.org.

Swing a hammer in Seattle

Through Operation Home Delivery, Habitat for Humanity will build houses all across the United States and ship them to the Gulf Coast. Volunteers are needed right here in Seattle to help with construction. For more information about Operation Home Delivery, visit www.habitat.org.

Spend a few weeks in the big easy

The Red Cross is sending teams of volunteers from across the United States to help with relief along the Gulf Coast. There will be an ongoing need for volunteers who can give several weeks of their time. The Red Cross is providing volunteers with specialized training. For more information, visit www.seattleredcross.org.

Help provide medical relief, food, and lodging

Northwest Medical Teams is sending teams of medical professionals to help church-based groups provide lodging and food to survivors and to help medical relief efforts. At this time, Northwest Medical Teams can no longer accept applications for Hurricane Katrina response, but financial donations are still welcome. For more information about other volunteer opportunities in or to give, visit www.nwmedicalteams.org.

CULTURE

An Exercise in Exorcism

Film and Theology deals with the Devil

By Pastor James Harleman

Inevitably, I get one of two questions with almost every Film and Theology event. Question 1: Why are you watching a movie at church? Question 2: Why are you watching THAT movie at church?

The answer to question number one is a bit complicated. First of all, we're not watching a movie AT the church; the church is not a building. It's a body of believers that love Jesus. If four Christians go to the Cinerama for a Saturday matinee, the church is watching a movie. If four hundred gather at our building on a Friday night, the church is watching a movie.

Second, the same type of thinking that would place "church" as a compartmentalized time or place leads us to further fragment our lives. Many Christians watch a movie as if it has no place or context within their daily walk; it's a "mindless" time where the conscious thought shuts down and they absorb the narrative like hungry sponges. Problem is, despite the bubbly blonde pop singer's testament to the contrary, the brain is never truly "mindless" – platitudes and implicit worldviews in film and media are still impacting us whether we like it or not. Being bombarded by secular thought wrapped in a pleasing storyline is no time to stop thinking about what you're engaging.

Even those who argue that "it's just entertainment" need to stop and think. As Christians, we are certainly commanded by God to take our Sabbath rest, but that Sabbath is always to the Lord; He's never supposed to be separate from our time of rest–our rest should be in Him–and yet too often we treat relaxation time as though we're taking a break from Him. Film and Theology is simply one method at Mars Hill where we lead by example, engaging a piece of secular media and demonstrating how it relates to our lives, channeling that media's ability to speak to others who don't share our hope in Christ. Movies can be entertaining and missional at the same time.

The second question, in regard to why we're viewing and discussing this month's dark and haunting film, The Exorcist, is even MORE complicated. Shunned and reviled by mainstream Christianity for over 30 years, the film is still unanimously considered (and even amongst horror genre enthusiasts) one of the most frightening movies ever made. The film is rated R, filled with profanity, and contains a few scenes so graphic we're breaking form and editing a few brief moments which simply go beyond the pale. So…why subject ourselves to such audiovisual torture? Why watch a horror movie?

Scott Derrickson, director of the new film The Exorcism of Emily Rose, addresses why Christians should have a voice in this particular film genre. In an interview with Christianity Today, he states, "This genre deals more overtly with the supernatural than any other genre, it tackles issues of good and evil more than any other genre, it distinguishes and articulates the essence of good and evil better than any other genre, and my feeling is that a lot of Christians are wary of this genre simply because it's unpleasant. The genre…is about making you face your fears. And in my experience, that's something that a lot of Christians don't want to do."

Moreover, while most contemporary movie genres don't feature characters that evince any faith whatsoever (a disturbing way in which Hollywood art does not reflect life), horror movies–more than any other film form–wrestle with the existence of the supernatural: demons, afterlife, and even the existence of God. Artists like Derrickson believe we have a responsibility as believers to be a voice in this marketplace; after all, as Christians, don't we purport to truly know what there is to fear and what lies beyond death? To simply dodge the subject matter wastes countless opportunities; scary movies about death, demons and fate are doing the work that fire and brimstone preachers used to dish out to fainting congregants. The church should be on hand to deal with the fallout as people chew on stories that remind them of their fragile mortality and limited understanding of the world around them.

Should we then immerse ourselves, watching every piece of television and film that deals with such subjects? With television shows like Medium, Ghost Whisperer, Charmed, Supernatural, and Night Stalker, this season there are witches, spirits, and monsters available every night without leaving your home. Scott Derrickson weighs in again with an obvious answer: "I think of this kind of material in an almost dietary fashion. It's…not healthy for anyone to overindulge in it. I would be concerned if one of my children were constantly watching nothing but horror films or indulging in gothic literature without the balance of other types of art and entertainment. C. S. Lewis had that very practical wisdom…in his introduction to The Screwtape Letters, when he talks about how the two great dangers, in regard to our thoughts about the demonic and the devil, are to think too much of them or too little of them. To be too afraid of them…is to give in to fear; but to become fascinated with it and to indulge in the material is also very unhealthy."

Not to mention, besides overindulgence, a good chunk of horror movies are just plain old poor filmmaking.

Friday, October 21, 6.45pm, we will gather to look at one of the most enduring horror films of the 20th century and address why it spins head and shoulders above the Freddys, the Jasons, the Michael Myers, and all the other Pinheads. Unlike other fright-fests, the fact that The Exorcist seeks to depict a very Christian worldview is quite distinct, and the fact that the demon-possessed girl's mother–who blasphemes Jesus Christ at regular intervals–has the audacity to wonder why this horrific circumstance has befallen her family is even more illuminating. Perhaps the most convicting part of the film, however, is the methodical approach used by its characters when it comes to solving their problems. It's an all too familiar life-rhythm, wherein God is the very last place we turn when it comes to our difficulties. Fortunately, God will be first at Film and Theology as we pray before and after this cultural exercise. Who knows? It may make this the most spiritual night at the movies some people have had all year.

The Exorcist is rated R for violence, profanity and graphic content. We also ask that children 17 and under be accompanied by a parent.

Friday, October 21st, 6:45pm
Mars Hill Church

Alathia
Community Church

Truth • Authenticity • Compassion • Community

Alathia Community Church is a new fellowship meeting in the Issaquah Highlands. We are here to bring the truth about Jesus Christ to the community in an authentic and culturally relevant way.

If you have a heart to see the Gospel spread in the Issaquah area and would like to learn how you can help, **join us for an informational gathering Thursday, October 13th at 7 PM at Blakely Hall in the Highlands.**

Light snacks will be served
Children are welcome

Alathia Sunday Service:
10 AM at Blakely Hall
2550 NE Park Dr
Issaquah WA 98029

www.alathia.org

ACTS29 NETWORK

Joel Braun

(continued from page 8)

Not only is the Mars Hill Children's Ministry a great way to get involved with the church and lead kids to Jesus, one is more inclined to meet others that love kids too. Joel, who serves in Children's Ministry with his wife, encourages single people to get involved.

"Women love guys who love kids," Joel stated. "For single guys who aspire to be married at some point, it's good advice: go work with kids. I can't reiterate that enough, if you're single and you aspire to be married, go work with kids."

Joel also expresses how rewarding it is to have kids call out to him at church, just to tell him that he's awesome and that they love him.

"Being involved with the Children's Ministry is really helping me relate to kids so that when I have my own I'll know more about what I'm doing." As for the future, Joel is excited about growing as he continually learns by serving in the church. Training to be a deacon is a big commitment, and it means challenges are bound to come, but that doesn't worry him. He knows his life is fully in God's hands.

"I can't wait. I don't know what the future holds, but I trust in God's plans, so I know it's awesome."

Pastor Bubba

(continued from page 9)

Bubba states that there are many ways to become involved; for those who want to engage and do not know how, he's eager to point them in the right direction.

Pastor Bubba is excited about Mars Hill's new building, just one block north of the current facility. It will accommodate about 2,000 seats, which is approximately 700 more than the current location. "It's in the design phase right now," Bubba said. "We are amending the blueprint to focus on our strengths; it's going to be an amazing place." Construction will start in January 2006 with an anticipated opening date about nine months later.

So how does Pastor Bubba manage thousands of people, hundreds of volunteers, and about 100,000 square feet of property? "First Peter 4:9 keeps me in check so that I don't grumble," he laughed.

The verse, which calls us to "offer hospitality to one another without grumbling," has been a help to Bubba. "A lot of what we do is simply offering hospitality without grumbling and sharing the grace, mercy, and love that Christ has given us," Pastor Bubba explains. "Practically speaking, forms of hospitality will vary according to the different gifts and talents individuals possess. For some, it might be greeting, others may help in the Children's Ministry. Other people might commit to the Breakfast Club on Saturdays.

"It is crucial for us to be good stewards of what God has given us and to honor Him with our lives."

From eager volunteer, to dependable leader, to staff deacon, to pastor, Bubba has given his life to furthering the gospel through Mars Hill. "It is very evident to Shelly and me that God brought us here to serve." Regarding future plans, "We've planted our stake and made our claim. We are here for life to be part of Mars Hill, to worship Jesus, and to build this church."

Pastor Bubba and Shelly are expecting their first child in 2006.

EXPRESSION

"Wedding Dress"
Words and music by Derek Webb

if you could love me as a wife
and for my wedding gift, your life
should that be all i'll ever need
or is there more i'm looking for

and should i read between the lines
and look for blessings in disguise
to make me handsome, rich, and wise
is that really what you want?

i am a whore i do confess
but i put you on just like a wedding dress
and i run down the aisle
i'm a prodigal with no way home
but i put you on just like a ring of gold
and i run down the aisle to you.

so could you love this bastard child
though i don't trust you to provide
with one hand in a pot of gold
and with the other in your side?
i am so easily satisfied
by the call of lovers less wild
that i would take a little cash
over your very flesh and blood.

because money cannot buy
a husband's jealous eye
when you have knowingly deceived his wife.

Editor's note: Derek Webb will be performing at Mars Hill October 22, along with Sandra McCracken and Late Tuesday Doors open at 6pm.

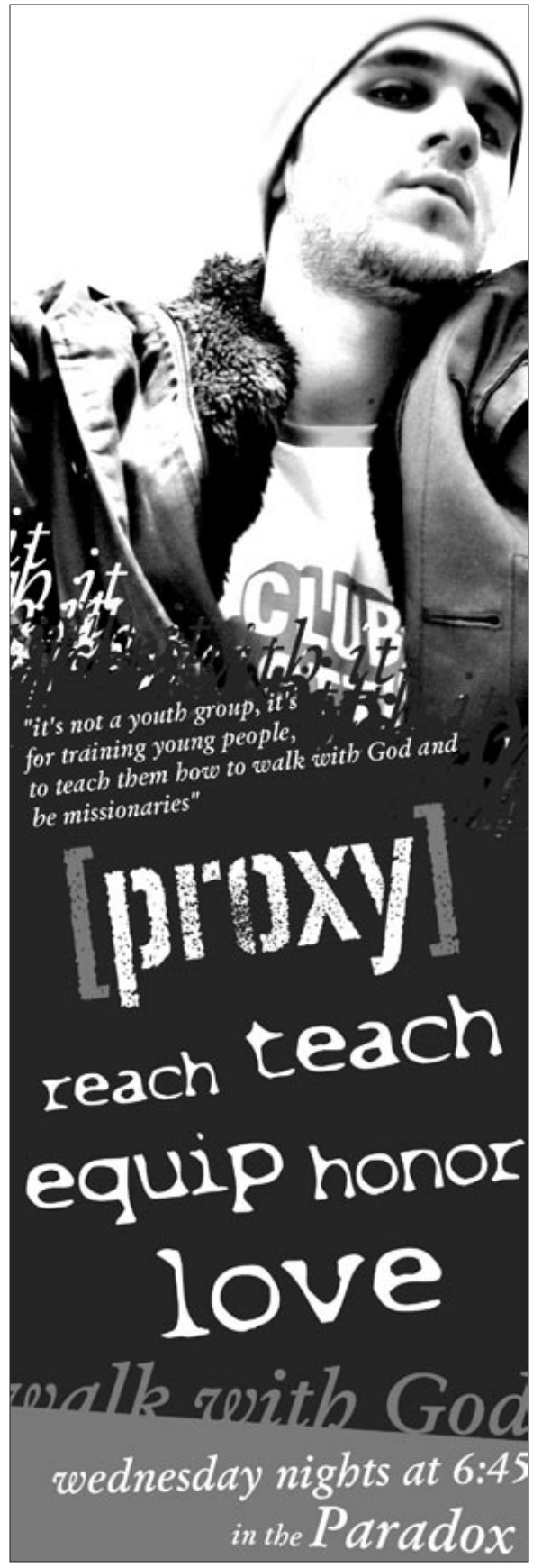
MARS HILL CHURCH

in concert

DEREK WEBB

Sandra McCracken & late tuesday

Friday, October 14.
Doors open at 6pm.



Vintage Saints

John Calvin

by Pastor Mark Driscoll
Research by Crystal Griffin

Arguably the most influential Bible teacher in the history of the church is John Calvin. He was born on July 10, 1509 in Noyon, France. One of his grandfathers was a lower class barrel maker and boatman. His other grandfather was an innkeeper. His father was a successful lawyer until the time of his death; he died when John was 22.

Calvin's early years were spent studying law until God saved him at the age of 24. Within three years, he published the first edition of the legendary Institutes of the Christian Religion, perhaps the most significant systematic theological book ever written. The final version of the Institutes was published when he was 50 years of age. The later edition articulates more fully the doctrines of God's sovereignty, predestination, and saving grace (since the elect are saved by grace, grace would never be taken from them). These doctrines sparked a revolution of vital gospel-preaching and comforted the many people who, due to some erroneous teachings of the Catholic Church, lived in terror of hell despite their faith in Jesus Christ.

At 27, Calvin settled in the city of Geneva. There he sought to build a city that operated according to the principles of the Bible as an outpost for the kingdom of God on earth. Through his preaching and teaching, Calvin became the most famous citizen in Geneva, refashioning every aspect of society from law to theology and seeking to bring it under the Lordship of Jesus and the authority of His Word. Many years later, Marxist mastermind Leon Trotsky (who helped Lenin create the Soviet Union out of the Russian Revolution of 1917) said that Karl Marx and John Calvin were the two greatest revolutionaries in all of Western history.

Although Calvin was a brilliant scholar versed in law, philosophy, and theology, as well as proficient in Greek, Hebrew, and Latin, he poured his energies into being pastor of his church and preaching the Bible. Calvin encouraged congregational singing (revolutionary in his day), even putting some Psalms to music himself for worship in his church. He preached an average of five sermons a week on various days in addition to Sunday; he also taught many Bible classes. Calvin's study culminated in the publishing of a commentary on nearly every book of the Bible. His commentaries remain incredibly insightful. Even one of his most ardent opponents, Jacobus Arminius, who founded the anti-Calvin theological system known as Arminianism, said, "Next to Scripture…I exhort my pupils to peruse Calvin's commentaries."

The sheer amount of work he was able to produce is all the more amazing in light of his frequent physical sickness. Calvin suffered from poor digestion, migraines, kidney stones, gout, lung infections, and lung hemorrhages. The latter were possibly the result of too much preaching and teaching. When unable to even walk the few hundred yards to church, he would be carried in a chair to preach; when too sick to enter into the winter air, he would fill his bedroom with hearers who would come to hear him preach from his bedroom. He was so committed to laboring hard for Jesus that he even worked on his death bed until he breathed his last, saying that he did not want to enter Jesus' presence as an idle man.

Despite his sickness, Calvin remained tough and unwavering in the face of constant opposition. Guns were fired outside of his church while he preached to scare his people, opponents sought to drown out his voice as he preached, and threats were even made against his life. Nonetheless, Calvin was unceasing in his preaching, teaching, and writing about the Jesus of the Bible.

Personally, Calvin greatly enjoyed good wine and his pastoral salary package included upwards of two hundred and fifty gallons of wine a year to enjoy with his guests. He married a widow with two children. She gave birth to his son who died at only two weeks of age and then she died later as well. Upon his own death, he ordered that he be buried in a common cemetery with no tombstone so that no one would enshrine his tomb. To this day the place of his burial is unknown. Calvin's mission was to point to Jesus and he had no interest in being the recipient of people's fixation.

Along with Martin Luther, John Calvin is regarded as the most towering figure of the Protestant Reformation. The two men never met. Today, Calvin is credited with the rise of capitalism and democracy which emerged from his theological teaching, which helped to shape the entire Western world. Movements such as Puritanism, as well as modern-day Presbyterian and Reformed churches, follow in his legacy.

Perhaps Calvin is best known for the five points of Calvinism summarized with the acronym T.U.L.I.P., referring to the total depravity of man, unconditional election of God, limited atonement of Jesus, irresistible saving grace of God, and lifelong perseverance of God's true saints. While not altogether bad, the five points of Calvinism are an insufficient reduction of Calvin's own beliefs and the five points were created by his followers some years later and were not Calvin's own invention.

Mars Hill is among those churches that look to John Calvin as one of the preeminent teachers God has given to the Church. Sadly, some of his followers have done a disservice to his name as Calvinists who do not share his passion for evangelism, cultural transformation, church planting, and Jesus-centered Bible-preaching but rather choose to unnecessarily fight over secondary and tertiary issues in an arrogant, mean-spirited, and judgmental manner for which Pastor Calvin would have soundly rebuked them.

capstone institute

NOVEMBER CAPSTONE CLASSES

All classes are four weeks long unless otherwise noted

Wednesday Classes
Mars Hill Church, 6:45-8:30

GOSPEL CLASS 102

Led by Mars Hill Church Pastors

Are you on board with Mars Hill's mission? Gospel 102 is the companion class to Gospel 101. Gospel 102 serves to layout the framework for what Mars Hill Church sees as our future in achieving our mission and purpose in Seattle. Content of the class covers the missional church, stewardship, core values and what it means to covenant with Mars Hill. We ask every potential church member to take Gospel 102 and consider if Mars Hill is truly a place where they belong. Gospel 101 is NOT a prerequisite for 102; you can take 102 before 101. Both of these classes, however, are required to become a member at Mars Hill and serve as prerequisites for many of our subsequent Capstone Classes.

CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

Brant Bosserman, member at Mars Hill Church
Scott Hedgecock, member at Mars Hill Church

Everyone has a worldview or an underlying philosophy that governs his/her daily living. In a philosophically savvy city such as Seattle, Christians must be prepared to articulate the fundamental tenets of their worldview to non-believers. Therefore, this course is designed to equip believers with a thoroughly Christian worldview, by engaging Scripture's witness to basic philosophical controversies which have arisen throughout history. Issues, terms, and the contributions of significant philosophers will be examined as a backdrop for understanding the distinctive solutions set forth by the Triune God of Scripture. Attendance for all four course sessions is mandatory. Students should expect to commit two hours to reading per week.

REFORMED THEOLOGY

Adam Sinnett, Deacon at Mars Hill Church
Kabyn Begg, member at Mars Hill Church

This introductory course will provide an overview of the historical and theological aspects of the God-centered tradition known as "Reformed" theology. At its heart lies the preeminent sovereignty and grace of God, fully manifested in the person of Jesus Christ. We will explore the impact of this rich tradition on our view of Scripture, God, Jesus, salvation, faith and our day-to-day lives. We will also navigate major doctrinal developments, briefly examine key players dating back to the first century and discuss its relevance to our time and place today. Join us as we spend four weeks learning about our Creator, High Priest and King who "gives all men life and breath and everything else."

FOUNDATION SERIES

Classes that are offered in the foundation series are open to members and non-members that attend Mars Hill Church. These classes will deliver content as well as allow for good discussion time to really help process the specific topic at hand. Consider the subject matter in these classes as another opportunity to lay sound groundwork for the rest of your Christian life.

FOUNDATION SERIES: BIBLE BASICS

Pastor Gary Shavey, (M.A. in Ministry)
Zack Hubert, (M.A. in Theology)
member at Mars Hill Church

When Jesus says, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear," He implies that we need to hear what God says not what we think He says. We will not only take time to remove our personal barriers but we will also give some general background of every book. This class will equip you with the ability to stave off misinterpretations by taking hold of the very practical and accessible Word of God in every day life. This is a great class to become acquainted with the divinely inspired Scriptures which will help anyone get more involved with future classes and community groups.

Sunday Classes
Mars Hill Church, 2:30-4:00

OLD TESTAMENT OVERVIEW

Pastor Gary Shavey (M.A. in Ministry)

Those that attend this class will biblically integrate the entirety of Scripture by understanding the present day relevance of our Old Testament. This is a study of the foundations of the Old Testament so we will focus on the bigger concepts and truths. We will be looking at foundational concepts such as the Kingdom of God and covenants in the Old Testament context. We will seek to understand the foundational and present day application of the New Testament and Christ's consummation. You will walk away with a completely renewed outlook of the Old and New Testament.

Mars Hill Community Groups

All community groups take place in the homes of church members who are committed to sharing their lives with those who participate in their group. The purpose of community groups is to provide a warm environment with opportunities for you to connect and grow authentic relationships and lasting biblical friendships with your brothers and sisters in Christ, experience authentic biblical community with God and others, find nourishment and accountability as you mature in your own walk with Christ and establish a support center from which you will go out into your various social networks carrying the hope of the Gospel.

Prayerfully consider joining a community group. A comprehensive list of groups with contact information is available online, in the connect center, and below. If you're interested in hosting or leading a Community Group, contact Pastor Dave Kraft – dave@marshillchurch.org.

MONDAY

Ballard 7pm
Led By: Mark Blair, Craig Baker
Contact: Kirsten Blair
Phone: 206-783-1970
Email: kirstentheblair@yahoo.com

Des Moines 7pm
Led By: Rob Thomas
Contact: Michelle Thomas
Phone: 206-592-0472
Email: bluedane@comcast.net

Greenlake 7pm
Led By: Jon Bugler
Contact: Josh Wall
Phone: 206-524-2032
Email: zoned_out2@yahoo.com

Redmond 7pm
Led By: John Rivard
Contact: John and Jeannie Rivard
Phone: 206-484-3886
Email: john@rivards.net

TUESDAY

Ballard
Led By: Jordan McDevitt
Contact: Roger Iverson
Phone: 206-226-0984
Email: highlakes@hotmail.com

Ballard
Led By: Paul Miller
Contact: Mike Murphey
Phone: 206-547-0635
Email: mmurphey@microsoft.com
For Men Only

Ballard 7:30pm
Led By: David Pauls
Contact: David and Patty Pauls
Phone: 206-235-4215
Email: patty@starfishcreative.com

Ballard 7pm
Led By: Luke Abrams
Contact: Jessica Abrams
Phone: 206-619-3824
Email: jessica@theabrams.net

Ballard 6:30pm
Led By: Fawn Hall
Contact: Fawn Hall
Phone: 206-706-8379
Email: gasket_girl@hotmail.com
For Women Only

Bothell 6:30pm
Led By: Sam Barrett
Contact: Sam and Beth Barrett
Phone: 425-398-9490
Email:
samandbethbarrett@yahoo.com

Central District
Led By: Wes Oaks
Contact: Wes and Jamie Oaks
Phone: 206-329-1176
Email:
wesleyandjamie@hotmail.com

Crown Hill 7pm
Led By: Adelle George,
Mike O'Dea
Contact: Adelle George
Phone: 206-696-1281
Email: adellemae@hotmail.com

Crown Hill 7:30pm
Led By: Drew Maxwell
Contact: Drew and Lisa Maxwell
Phone: 206-650-7085
Email: lisa@marshillchurch.org

Edmonds 7pm
Led By: Justin Schaeffer
Contact: Amy Schaeffer
Phone: 425-776-4374
Email: aj.schaeffer@comcast.net

Everett
Led By: Tim Quiring
Contact: Tim and Anne Quiring
Phone: 425-379-2966
Email: tquiring@earthlink.net

Fremont 7pm
Led By: Andrew Hockman,
Sally Morrison
Contact: Andrew Hockman
Phone: 425-830-1805
Email: sledge@getstunned.com

Fremont 7pm
Led By: Cory James Clouse
Contact: Cory James Clouse
Phone: 425-280-7820
Email: coryjames32@gmail.com

Fremont 7:30pm
Led By: Colin Day
Contact: Lauren Day
Phone: 206-217-5651
Email: lauren@limbotext.com

Greenlake
Led By: Ben Anderson
Contact: Scott Richardson
Phone: 206-783-5902
Email: greenlakecommunitygroup
@earthlink.net

Greenwood 7pm
Led By: Patrick Dahlstrom
Contact: Patrick Dahlstrom
Phone: 206-550-0007
Email: Pat_rickjd@yahoo.com

Greenwood 6:30pm
Led By: Nick Moceri
Contact: Nick and Beth Moceri
Phone: 206-219-9092
Email: moceri@gmail.com

Issaquah 6:45pm
Led By: Dan Kronstad
Contact: Jason Cowan
Email: jasoncowan98@yahoo.com

Kirkland 7:30pm
Led By: Tim Zion
Contact: Tim and Mariah Zion
Phone: 206-427-7869
Email: timzion@hotmail.com

Lake City 7pm
Led By: Hunter Hadaway
Contact: Hunter and
Molly Hadaway
Phone: 206-368-8952
Email: mollyhadaway@comcast.net

Lake City 7pm
Led By: Matt Johnson
Contact: Rose Johnson
Phone: 206-388-3325
Email: r_shalomj@yahoo.com

Lynnwood 10:30am
Led By: Melissa Woolley
Contact: Kathleen Firstenberg
Email: katfirst@comcast.net
For Women Only

Lynnwood 7pm
Led By: James Dahlman
Contact: Jim Dahlman
Phone: 425-744-0588
Email: jedahlman@hotmail.com

Magnolia 7pm
Led By: Tony Bolander
Contact: Tony Bolander
Phone: 206-979-8811
Email: tonybolander@yahoo.com

North Seattle 7pm
Led By: Mark Kaetzel
Contact: Mark and Marin Kaetzel
Phone: 206-361-2282
Email: kaetzelfamily@msn.com

Northgate 7pm
Led By: Michael Adeney,
Shane Day
Contact: Michael Adeney
Phone: 206-524-4142
Email:
mwadeney@u.washington.edu

Pioneer Square 7pm
Led By: Jeff Bettger
Contact: Jeff Bettger
Phone: 206-227-4397
Email: jbettger@dc3e.com

Queen Anne 7pm
Led By: Jeremy Culver
Contact: Jeremy Culver
Phone: 206-910-7234
Email: jerculver@yahoo.com

Queen Anne 7pm
Led By: Joel Robnett
Contact: Joel Robnett
Phone: 206-300-0960
Email: robnett26@hotmail.com

Ravenna/Bryant 7pm
Led By: John Fromel
Contact: John and Debbie Fromel
Phone: 206-219-5312
Email: debbie@fromel.com

Sammamish 7pm
Led By: Mark Brinton
Contact: Sam or Jackie Jarawan
Phone: 425-868-0341
Email: markabrinton@hotmail.com

Shoreline 7pm
Led By: Bill Nieman
Contact: Bill and Joan Nieman
Phone: 206-417-5565
Email: joanandbill@seanet.com

Shoreline 7pm
Led By: Andrew Myers
Contact: Heidi Myers
Phone: 206-992-3019
Email: alayne@gmail.com

Shoreline 10:30am
Led By: Trisha Wilkerson
Contact: Trisha Wilkerson
Email: trisha@marshillchurch.org
For Women Only

So. Issaquah 7pm
Led By: David Nelson
Contact: David and Sammi Nelson
Phone: 425-432-0748
Email: applefieldfarm@msn.com

South Seattle 7pm
Led By: Ted Dietz
Contact: Ted and Sarah Dietz
Phone: 206-755-0774
Email: sarahdietz@comcast.net

University District 7pm
Led By: Ryan James
Contact: Ryan James
Phone: 360-271-1224
Email: jamesr@spu.edu

West Seattle 7pm
Led By: Kyle Peters
Contact: Kyle Peters
Phone: 206-443-1685
Email: kpeters@westinbldg.com

Federal Way 7pm
Led By: Kurt Stender
Contact: Michelle Stender
Phone: 206-783-4425
Email: michelle@stenderlaw.com

WEDNESDAY

Kirkland 6:30pm
Led By: Jamie Wallace
Contact: Jamie Wallace
Phone: 425-605-4524
Email: jamie@jamieandholly.com

Lake City 10am
Led By: Molly Hadaway
Contact: Molly Hadaway
Phone: 206-368-8952
Email:
mollyhadaway@comcast.net
For Women Only

THURSDAY

Ballard 7:30pm
Led By: Ted Cook
Contact: Catherine Doner
Phone: 206-579-9315
Email:
catherinedoner@hotmail.com

Bellevue 7pm
Led By: Cliff Low
Contact: Cliff Low
Phone: 425-747-0772
Email: cliff_low@msn.com

Bothell 10am
Led By: Celestine Gibbs
Contact: Celestine Gibbs
Phone: 425-275-2723
Email: Celygibbs@yahoo.com
For Women Only

Greenwood 7pm
Led By: Aaron Easter
Contact: Leigh Georgianna
Phone: 206-369-9517

Kent 7pm
Led By: Shane Rehberg
Contact: Shane Rehberg
Email: srehberg@speakeasy.net

Kirkland 6:30pm
Led By: Micah Stroh
Contact: Michelle Bates
Phone: 206-313-7757
Email: lcruizerchick@yahoo.com

Kirkland 7pm
Led By: Mark Lautenbach
Contact: Mark Lautenbach
Phone: 206-235-1486
Email:
marklautenbach@comcast.net

Lynnwood 7:15pm
Led By: Kristian Ellefsen
Contact: Bina Ellefsen
Phone: 206-383-2092
Email: binahe@yahoo.com

Northgate 7pm
Led By: Eric Youngblut
Contact: Eric and Carla
Youngblut
Phone: 206-219-9125
Email: ericandcarla@youngblut.net

Phinney Ridge 7pm
Led By: Chris Hall
Contact: Kim Hall
Phone: 206-297-7995
Email: kimbrehall@comcast.net

Queen Anne 7pm
Led By: Kabyn Begg
Contact: Torrey Maben
Phone: 206-285-7027
Email:
torreym@marshillchurch.org

Queen Anne 7pm
Led By: Dwayne Forehand
Contact: Dwayne Forehand
Phone: 206-650-7034
Email:
dforehand@marshillchurch.org

South Seattle 10am
Led By: Kristina Wendorf
Contact: Kristina Wendorf
Phone: 206-722-01235
Email: ktwendorf@gmail.com
For Women Only

Wallingford 7pm
Led By: Troy Dillon
Contact: Troy Dillon
Phone: 206-547-0635
Email: wallingfordcg@yahoo.com

FRIDAY

Bainbridge Island
Led By: Bob Moore
Contact: Bob and Dixie Moore
Phone: 206-842-1402
Email: rim@bainbridge.net

Kirkland 10am
Led By: Angela Giboney
Contact: Angela Giboney
Phone: 425-869-1759
Email: anggiboney@yahoo.com
For Women Only

Phinney Ridge Friday 10am
Led By: Kim Hall
Contact: Kim Hall
Phone: 206-297-7995
Email: kimbrehall@comcast.net
For Women Only

SATURDAY

Shoreline 5pm
Led By: Mike Wilkerson
Contact: Mike and Trisha
Wilkerson
Email: trishaw@speakeasy.net

Money at Mars Hill

What do we believe about our stuff?

Very simply, everything we have comes from God. Our money is a blessing and a tool we use to worship Him by giving to the church (to further the Gospel in Seattle), providing for our families and enjoying God and the grace that He gives us. You may have a lot and you may have a little, but the real question is: are you worshipping God with your stuff and do the first fruits of your checkbook reveal that?

How much should I give?

The Bible says that giving is for Christians and should be directed first to your local church. The bible does not say how much you should give but rather seeks to deal with the heart behind your giving. 2nd Corinthians 8 and 9 say that our giving should be cheerful, regular, sacrificial and generous. The Bible does not prescribe a percentage; through prayer we must seek to have a clear conscience in regards to our giving. Jesus says, *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Mt 6:21).

Who should give?

Christians should give faithfully to their local church. If you are not a Christian, don't give–seek to deal with the larger issue: your sin and Jesus' forgiveness of that sin. We are not concerned about the amount people give but about the number of people who are giving. God is building His kingdom through the church, and He asks that all believers share in this joyous responsibility. This mission is bigger than just a few of us and takes everyone's effort and faithfulness; no matter if you are a college student who can give only 10 bucks a month or a millionaire who can give thousands.

How Can I Give At Mars Hill?

- By check or cash placed in the offering basket during service
- By check or cash placed In the triangular kiosks located in the foyers
- By mailing a check to the church office (contact the office if you would like some self addressed envelopes).
- Online contributions can be given via debit or credit card at **www.marshillchurch.org**.
- Automatic Payments (ACH) can also be set up - email **giving@marshillchurch.org**
- Donation of stock

Sincerely,
Pastor Jamie Munson

Questions, Comments or Concerns,
e-mail: **giving@marshillchurch.org**

CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION/WEEKLY GIVING TRENDS

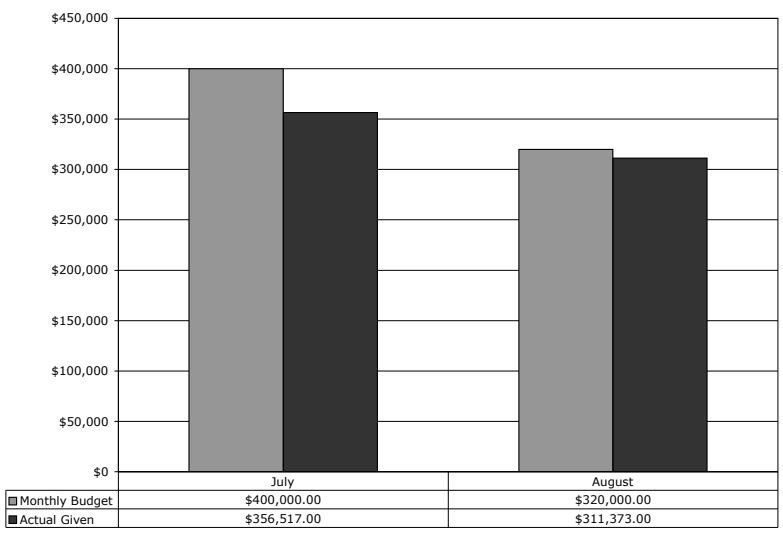
Date	Budget	Giving	# of Givers	Attendance
Aug 14	$80,000.00	$73,183.00	294	3206
Aug 21	$80,000.00	$85,143.00	366	3167
Aug 28	$80,000.00	$61,000.00	321	3648
Sept 4	$85,000.00	$75,396.00	348	3453
Sept 11	$85,000.00	$95,794.00	372	3687
Sept 18	$85,000.00	$53,168.00	319	3670

GIVING TRENDS

(July 1, 2005– Sept. 18, 2005)

Total Given	$890,659.85
Households	1427
Average Giving	$226.96/month Per household

MONTHLY BUDGET VS. ACTUAL GIVING



**These are budgeted giving numbers. They don't represent actual surplus or deficit.*

EXPAND CAMPAIGN

Due to a growing church body and space limitations, we have purchased a new facility one block North at 1401 NW 50th.

We need to raise 3 million dollars in the next 16 months – for full details check out the "EXPAND" flyer or go to **www.marshillchurch.org.**

Needed funds	**$3,000,000**
Raised to date	**$1,158,657**
Number of Giving Households	**798**

Pastor Jesse Winkler leaves Mars Hill Church with our blessing to plant a new Acts 29 Church in Redmond. We encourage Eastside MH members and those with a heart and calling to the Eastside to pray and consider joining Pastor Jesse on his mission to this community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Biblical Roles Seminar

Saturday, October 22, 9am-3pm at Mars Hill

What is a good father? How can a girl be a good daughter? What makes a good wife? How should a husband act? The way one answers these questions profoundly shapes the direction and nature of one's live.

Understanding our purpose as men (husbands, fathers, sons) and women (wives, mothers, daughters) in God's Kingdom is invaluable to the mission of Mars Hill Church and beneficial to the communities in which we live. This seminar will be challenging and very practical, addressing personal growth and roles in areas such as courtship, marriage, and sexuality.

Sign up now at ***www.marshillchurch.org.***

New and Expectant Mothers Dessert Forum

Monday, October 17th 6:30-8:30pm

A time of celebration and encouragement for mothers. We'll meet in the Paradox for dessert and discussion. Visit with other moms and be refreshed as we consider God's saving work in childbearing. Babies and small children welcome. Email ***moms@marshillchurch.org*** to reserve your place. Space is limited.

More than cleaning. So much more.

The Breakfast Club is an opportunity to serve, fellowship, pray, study, and enjoy a tasty home-cooked breakfast. And if you don't like cleaning toilets or vacuuming, no problem. We offer many other serving opportunities. The Breakfast Club is the perfect way to connect with others and hang with friends while preparing the building for Sunday services. Join the party, Saturdays at 10am. Just show up!

Recovery Groups

If you're struggling with addiction, substance abuse, homosexuality, infertility, post-abortion trauma...Recovery Groups are designed to kindly, carefully and firmly bring about a new way of life in Jesus. To join a Recovery Group, email ***recovery@marshillchurch.org***.

Help in the Mars Hill office AND keep our kids safe.

Children's Ministry is looking for someone who is able to serve a few hours a week to help screen new volunteer applications and prepare for upcoming volunteer trainings. In addition, we currently have a large data-entry project needing attention, so if you are interested in serving in either of these capacities, e-mail ***tami@marshillchurch.org***.

Agathos Foundation's 3rd Annual Dessert Fundraiser

November 1, 6:15pm at Mars Hill

The Agathos Foundation works in in South Africa, offering housing, vocational training, and Jesus' love to AIDS orphans. Come learn about their unique and effective approach to the AIDS crisis at this annual fundraiser. This year's event includes a silent auction and MC Grant Goodeve. Additionally, a family foundation has pledged $30,000 to be used as a matching funds drive for the evening. Any cash gift or pledge received as part of this evening with be doubled up to $30,000.00!

There is a limited amount of seats for this evening, so please RSVP as soon as possible. Email ***marc.fulmer@agathosfoundation.org.***

If you thought the auditorium was packed...

CM Training, Sunday, October 9th 11:15-12:15

Kids attendance is growing faster than our adults! Help us check-in families, hold babies, man security stations, or play with toddlers. Come to the one-time, informal, mandatory, with Children's Ministry pastor, Dick McKinley. You'll learn about the the duties, purpose, and vision surrounding the ministry. If you plan on attending, email ***kids@marshillchurch.org***.

As Wednesday night programming begins once again, lots of help is needed for Jericho Junction!

80 Groups and counting...

Our Church meets weekly throughout the Puget Sound region. From Everett to Federal Way, Bainbridge to Maple Vally...Mars Hill Community Groups are everywhere. And if you're reading this thinking, "hah! I don't live in that region!" then maybe God is calling you to start one where *you're* at.

For everyone else, sign up for a Community Group today by visiting the info desk or emailing community@marshillchurch.org.

Healing Hearts

New for the Fall is Mars Hill's ministry for women going through the trauma and confusion experienced after abortion. This group is led by women who have experienced this pain first-hand, women who can address the issue from position that is both compassionate and biblical. Email ***recovery@marshillchurch.org*** to join Healing Hearts.

Mars Hill is Hiring!

Two paid positions now open:

Facilities Manager will be responsible for keeping Mars Hill Church properties in like new condition. Qualified applicants will fulfill the duties required of MH church members as outlined in the membership covenant, fulfill the duties of a deacon as taught in the Scriptures, have a proven leadership track record, be able to multi- task, be detailed-oriented, be proficient in creating processes, writing policy, producing reports and facility maintenance. This is a full time position and pay is determined by experience.

Facilities Intern will be responsible for cleaning Mars Hill Church properties. Qualified applicants will fulfill the duties required of MH church members as outlined in the membership covenant. This is a part time position and pays $8 per hour.

Interested parties email ***apply@marshillchurch.org*** *by October 10.*

November Capstone classes now open for registration.

Mars Hill is now offering classes on a monthly basis. Multiple four-week classes are beginning in November, including Gospel 102 for those interested in becoming a member or learning more about Mars Hill. Registration for all classes is available at www.marshillchurch.org.

Men's Prayer

Tuesdays, 7:15-7:45 in the Paradox.

Pastor Mark leads the men of Mars Hill in thirty minutes of intentional, focused prayer for our marriages, our families, our church, and our city.

Daylight Savings: No Excuse!

Before you go to bed on October 29, don't forget to turn your clock's back one hour. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep.

october

for more information, visit www.marshillchurch.org

weekly this season

sunday services
9:00 am, 11:15 am, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm

(Childrens' Ministry at all services except 7:15 pm)

men's prayer
tuesdays, 7:15-7:45am, in the paradox

Intentional. Focused.

capstone & gospel 101/102
wednesdays, 6:45pm

October classes begin on the 5th, but registration is already open for November. If you're new to Mars Hill, consider "Gospel 102," one-half of our two-part introductory series covering the gospel and Mars Hill doctrine. Register at www.marshillchurch.org

proxy
wednesdays, 6:45pm in the paradox

High school and junior high are invited to gather for worship, testimony, teaching, and prayer. The purpose of this ministry is to see each student mature spiritually, physically, and in reputation as they grow closer to Christ.

jericho junction
wednesdays, 6:45pm

Jericho Junction presents the Word of God through the use of drama and puppets. Jericho Junction challenges and encourages kids. It's an artful, interesting, and exciting way for children to learn everyday application of the Bible.

"the breakfast club"
saturday mornings, 10am at Mars Hill

Breakfast, prayer, and fellowship, preparing our church for worship the following day. Contact jay@marshillchurch.org for more details.

also in oct. and early nov.

children's ministry volunteer training
october 9, 11:15-12:15

This is an informal, mandatory training session for anyone interested in volunteering with Children's Ministry. Please email **kids@marshillchurch.org** if you plan on attending.

mars hill concert: derek webb
october 14, 6pm

Also performing: Sandra McCracken and Late Tuesday.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
September 25 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm	26	27 Men's Prayer, 7:15am	28	29	30	**October 1** Breakfast Club: 10am Coalition: Milton Skatepark 2pm Outdoors: San Juan Kayak Trip
2 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm	3	4 Men's Prayer, 7:15am	5 6:45pm--Capstone Gospel 101 Jericho Junction Proxy	6	7	8 Breakfast Club: 10am
9 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm Children's Ministry Training, 11:15am	10 Paradox: *Make Believe,* 8pm	11 Men's Prayer, 7:15am	12 6:45pm--Capstone Gospel 101 Jericho Junction Proxy	13	14 Mars Hill concert: Derek Webb, Sandra McCracken, Late Tuesday, 6pm doors	15 Breakfast Club: 10am
16 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm	17 New and Expectant Mom's Dessert Forum, 6:30pm	18 Men's Prayer, 7:15am	19 6:45pm--Capstone Gospel 101 Jericho Junction Proxy	**20**	21 Film & Theology, *The Exorcist,* 6:45	22 Biblical Roles Seminar, 9-3 Coalition SK8: 4pm, Bellevue Indoor
23 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm	24	25 Men's Prayer, 7:15am Paradox: *J. Tilman* 8pm	26 6:45pm--Capstone Gospel 101 Jericho Junction Proxy	27	28	29 Breakfast Club: 10am DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCK BACK!
30 Sunday Services 9am, 11:15am, 5pm, 7:15pm	**November 1** Agathos Fundraiser, 6:15pm	2 Men's Prayer, 7:15am	3 6:45pm--Capstone Gospel 102 Jericho Junction Proxy	4	5	6 Breakfast Club: 10am

film and theology: "the exorcist"
october 21, 6:45pm

Come see what is widely considered to be the scariest movie of all time. Discussion to follow. This movie is rated 'R'; children under 17 not permitted without an adult (see page 12 for more details).

paradox concerts (Always all ages)

We're pleased to offer Mars Hill facilities as a very practical, hospitable outreach to our local music scene. Check out **www.theparadox.org** for more information on concerts. Always all ages

october 10, 8pm, $7

Make Believe, Bird Show, In Praise Of Folly

october 25, 8pm, $7

J. Tillman, Airport Cathedral, Saxon Shore, Graham Travis

outdoors
contact each event leader for details on these and other outdoor events

october 15 and 16

climbing in Eastern Washington (experience recommended), contact **ristretto@spu.edu**

october 22

hiking at Cooper River, contact **limmei@gmail.com**

coalition sk8
Email Kimo - **shredgnar@comcast.net**

october 22, 2-4pm

Bellevue Indoor Skatepark, 14224 Bel-Red Road. Bring $4, helmet, pads, and a waiver (which you can download at cityofbellevue.org: click "dept," "park and rec," "skatepark."